

REMARKS

Claims 37-46, 48, 50, 52, 55, 56, 58 and 60 are currently pending in the application by this preliminary amendment. No new matter has been added to the application. The amendments merely insert language from the claims of the application as originally filed.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that all claims now pending in the above referenced application are in condition for allowance. Therefore, an early indication of such allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Date: Mar. 11, 2004

By:

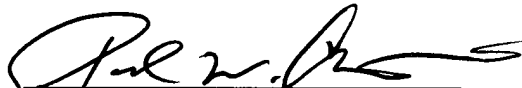


Paul Churilla

Reg. No. 47,495

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The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail - Post Office to Addressee, Mailing Number ER389544667US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 11th day of March 2004.



Paul W. Churilla